

## **United States Department of the Interior**

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Pinedale Field Office

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In Reply Refer To: 1610 (LLWYD01) P Adaptive Management Proposal #1



## ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT FINAL RECCOMENDATION Memo

Date: 01/06/11

To: Shane DeForest, Pinedale Field Manager

From: Adaptive Management Review Team (Mark Thonhoff, Josh Hemenway,

Theresa Gulbrandson, Therese Hartman, and Kellie Roadifer)

Subject: Pronghorn matrix threshold changes

As part of the adaptive management process the adaptive management review team has conducted a formal review of the comments received from the public for proposed pronghorn matrix mitigation threshold changes. In light of the comments received, the review team concurs with BLM and WYGFD response to the UW COOP review, that the pronghorn "size of habitat fragments used" component be dropped from the Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Matrix as shown below. Changes in habitat availability do not trigger any mitigation action by itself. Only changes in population documented to have exceeded 15% triggers additional mitigation. We support continuing habitat use data collection and analysis as it is useful for monitoring distribution and use overtime and for assessing mitigation success.

The proposed pronghorn matrix threshold changes are as follows:

Criteria: "Size of habitat fragments used"
Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Changes that Will Be Monitored: "Use by antelope in any year, initially compared to first year of available antelope habitat use data, and a concurrent change in antelope numbers compared to first year of available antelope data"

Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Specific Change Requiring Mitigation: "10% decline in habitat availability for one year, and a concurrent 15% change in antelope numbers for that year, compared to reference area (Sublette antelope herd unit or other mutually agreeable area). Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Mitigation Responses: "Select mitigation response sequentially as listed below, implement most useful and feasible and monitor results over sufficiently adequate time for the level of impact described by current monitoring'

Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Authorized Official: Date: /-//-//